Weekly COVID-19 Case Investigation Quality Improvement Report, September 18, 2020

Data exported, September 17, 2020 (4:30 PM)

Arkansas Department of Health (ADH)

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Data Summary: As of September 17, 2020, a total of 74,385 laboratory confirmed COVID-19 cases were reported to the ADH. During this reporting period, about 64.5% cases were linked to known positives or clusters. Since the September 11 weekly report, an additional 7,165 cases have been reported to the ADH. As a result, the percentage of unlinked cases remained approximately at 35.5%. Please refer to the Chart below for the weekly trends of unlinked cases.

Due to the high volume of new cases, we assigned a 5-day lag time before considering a positive case to be unlinked. The total number of cases as of September 18 reporting period was 74,385, of which 1,483 (2.0%) cases were still under investigation, which was slightly lower compared to the 2.2% reported on September 11. These cases are currently being worked through the system to improve the timeliness of contact investigation.

Table: COVID-19 cases linked to known positives or clusters (A-E), and those not linked.

Linked categories	As of September 17
A. Nursing home/Jail	9,820
B. Contact with known positives	26,897
C. Travelled to advisory location	71
D. Contact with case under investigation for COVID-19	949
E. Members of known or suspected cluster	9,298
Records without link (not including those under investigation)	25,867
Total number of cases (not including those under investigation)	72,902
Grand total	74,385

Starting September 18, probable COVID-19 cases reported to the ADH based on verbal reporting and antigen test results were included in the analysis.
Data source: REDCap System, Arkansas Department of Health; Data exported: September 17, 2020; Data reported: September 18, 2020
Exclusivity: Number of cases are counted only once in the table above.
Suspected cluster: Two or more cases linked to the same employer location or community.
Methodology: A 5-day lag was applied to the most recently reported cases and placed in the "still under investigation" category; these cases were not included in the calculation of unlinked percentage (rows with gray highlights).

Chart: Weekly trends of unlinked COVID-19 cases, as of September 17, 2020